



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
INSTALLATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0110

March 15, 2004

The Honorable Joel Hefley
Chairman
Subcommittee on Readiness
Committee on Armed Services
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6035

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Title 10 USC, Section 2811 (as amended by Public Law 105-85), requires that the Secretary concerned shall submit congressional notification to the appropriate committees when they plan to carry out a repair project in excess of \$7,500,000. This letter notifies the committee of a repair project to be accomplished at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, with a total estimated funded cost of \$34,000,000, using operation and maintenance funds made available from the FY04 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense and for Reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Kandahar Airfield is the southern hub for military operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 10,500-foot runway and taxiways are severely deteriorated and in need of major repair. This project, funded appropriately with operation and maintenance funds, will reconstruct the runway and taxiways, as well as replace unserviceable lighting and navigational aids. If the project is not funded, the airfield will not be able to support current operations safely in all weather conditions. This repair project is consistent with force structure plans, is more cost effective than replacement, and is an appropriate use of operation and maintenance funds.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Whitaker
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Installations and Housing)
OASA(I&E)

cc: The Honorable Solomon P. Ortiz
Ranking Member

